

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the Abstract with the following amended Abstract:

-- ~~A Disclosed~~ is a method for distilling, ~~e.g.~~, ethanol from a mash ~~or must~~. ~~According to said method,~~ includes feeding a fluid (1) ~~that is fed~~ to a first distillation column, ~~(stripper 13)~~ The fluid and a distillate (4) of the first distillation column ~~(13)~~ are delivered to a second distillation column ~~(rectification column, 14)~~. The fed fluid (1) and/or distillate (7) of the second distillation column (14) ~~is/are~~ purified in a first and/or last step of the ~~inventive~~ method by ~~means of~~ a membrane separation process. --